

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Please amend claims 4, 5, 8, 23, and 24. Please add new claims 26-29.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 13, or the complement of said nucleotide sequence.

2. (Original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 1, 3 or 12.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising ~~the~~ (a) a nucleic acid molecule nucleotide sequence of claim 1 that encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 13 and (b) a nucleotide sequence encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

5. (Currently Amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule according to ~~any one of claims 1, 2, and 4~~ either claim 1 or claim 2.

6. (Previously Presented) The vector of claim 5, which is an expression vector.

7. (Previously Presented) A host cell transfected or transformed with the expression vector of claim 6.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or 13, said method comprising culturing the host cell of claim 7 in an appropriate culture medium to thereby produce the polypeptide.

9. – 22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a nucleic acid molecule that comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, 3, and 12 and a suitable pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

24. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising (1) an antisense nucleic acid molecule that comprises (a) a nucleotide sequence that is complementary to (a)-a sequence encoding a polypeptide, which polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or 13, or (b) a nucleotide sequence that is complementary to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, 3, and 12; and (2) a pharmaceutically acceptable suitable carrier.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (New) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 4.

27. (New) The vector of claim 26, which is an expression vector.

28. (New) A host cell transfected or transformed with the expression vector of claim 27.

29. (New) A method of producing a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 4, said method comprising culturing the host cell of claim 28 in an appropriate culture medium to thereby produce the polypeptide.